

**IV. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Currently Amended) A gaming machine comprising:  
a variable display means~~device~~ for variably displaying symbols; and  
an electric display device disposed in front of the variable display  
~~means~~device, and having a light transparent area which shows symbols  
displayed on the variable display ~~means~~device, from outside of the gaming  
machine,  
wherein said electric display device includes:  
an electric display panel displaying an image,  
a light guiding plate having an opposing pair of flat surfaces and a plurality  
of contiguous side faces extending therebetween and peripherally about the pair  
of flat surfaces, the light guiding plate operative for guiding light entered from at  
least one side face thereof to a back face of the electric display panel so as to  
irradiate the light, and  
an illumination device means having a light emitting diode, the illumination  
means illuminating the electric display panel from therebehind, the illumination  
device including a plurality of light emitting diodes aligned continuously along and  
adjacent to the at least one side face of the light guiding plate.

2. (Canceled)
3. (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~ gaming machine according to claim 1  
comprising:  
a variable display device for variably displaying symbols; and  
an electric display device disposed in front of the variable display device,  
and having a light transparent area which shows symbols displayed on the  
variable display device, from outside of the gaming machine,  
wherein said electric display device includes:  
an electric display panel displaying an image,  
a diffusion sheet, and

an illumination device,  
wherein the illumination meansdevice comprises a plate-shaped board  
and a plurality of the-light emitting diode-diodes provided in a plurality of rows  
and columns to form a matrix on an entire-a surface of the electric display device  
excluding the light transmitting area plate-shaped board, the plurality of light  
emitting diodes opposing a back face of the electric display devicediffusion sheet  
and  
the diffusion sheet being disposed between the electric display panel and  
the illumination device.

4. (New) A game machine comprising:  
a variable display device for variably displaying symbols; and  
an electric display device disposed in front of the variable display device  
and having a light transparent area which shows symbols displayed on the  
variable display device from outside of the gaming machine,  
wherein said electric display device includes:  
an electric display panel displaying an image,  
a light guide plate having an opposing pair of flat surfaces and a  
plurality of contiguous side faces extending therebetween and peripherally about  
the pair of flat surfaces, the light guiding plate operative for guiding light entered  
from at least one side face thereof to a back face of the electric display panel so  
as to irradiate the light,  
an illumination device illuminating the electric display panel from  
therebehind, the illumination device including a plurality of light emitting diodes  
aligned continuously along and adjacent to the at least one side face of the light  
guide plate, and  
a reflection plate disposed between said variable display device and said  
light guiding plate for reflecting light emitted from said emitting diodes on said  
light guide plate to said electric display panel.

5. (New) A gaming machine according to claim 4, further comprising a diffusion sheet, wherein the plurality of light emitting diodes oppose a back face of the diffusion sheet.

6. (New) A gaming machine according to claim 4, further comprising a diffusion sheet, wherein the diffusion sheet is disposed between the electric display panel and the illumination device.

7. (New) A gaming machine according to claim 4, further comprising a diffusion sheet, wherein the plurality of light emitting diodes oppose a back face of the diffusion sheet and the diffusion sheet is disposed between the electric display panel and the illumination device.